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tending to show modifications in the skulls of immigrant children. Many biologists dispute Boas' conclusions; and it would still have to be proved that changes in the skull involve changes in character.

The figures for crime (p. 54) and for school children (pp. 283-285) are not worked out with reference to population, only the absolute figures or percentages being given. The authors seem, also, unduly optimistic over the working of the present law. On page 27 they say, "with very rare exceptions every immigrant admitted to this country is now in good health"; and, as to mental defectives (p. 47), "the present law on this point seems to be satisfactory." They also speak, on page 44, of the fines on steamships as having made the transportation of diseased aliens unprofitable. The testimony of the Commissioner of Immigration at New York, and of the New York state officials, is directly contrary on all these points. The fines on the steamships foot up each year to a large amount; and, in a recent case within the writer's knowledge, of 300 aliens certified as defective by the examining surgeons, all but 3 were landed. Hence the reference (p. 326) to "the present rather rigid enforcement of the laws" seems to the writer unfortunate. The authors also fail to give due weight to the objections to distribution of immigrants, in the absence of more restrictive legislation, which were clearly set forth in the last report of the Commissioner-General.

The probability of new legislation may account for the insertion of the text of the pending Dillingham bill instead of that of the present law; and lack of space, for the absence of any bibliography. The statistical appendix contains many useful tables.

PRESCOTT F. HALL.

The Declining Birth-Rate: Its National and International Significance. By ARTHUR NEWSHOLME. New Tracts for the Times. (New York: Moffatt, Yard and Company. 1911. Pp. 60. \$.50.)

Within the compass of this slight booklet Dr. Newsholme has dealt successively with three aspects of the problem of the reduced birth-rate. He presents at the outset evidence of the rates of natural increase at different recent periods and in different countries, using for this purpose figures as far as possible cleared of fallacy by his now well-known method of birth-rate correction.

The immediate cause of the declining birth-rate he finds in volitional limitation of the family, by means of checks which at present are not practiced to a uniform extent in the several economic classes of society. But, finally, proceeding from this familiar conclusion to interpret the effects of such differential control, he shows himself exceptionally and agreeably free from panic alarm at the outlook. Restriction of births, he reminds us, has not long been prevalent. Knowledge and acceptance of the restrictive practices will quite likely have spread pretty thoroughly through all social ranks before the present unequal resort to them has twisted the race out of shape. Meantime we may reflect that even for those who are born poor external disadvantages are being overcome, and that an inherent and hereditary inferiority of the working-class population cannot yet be regarded as demonstrated. In spite of all this, the problem is still serious. The hope of solution lies in an enlightened opinion, operating to revise the standards of those who are disinclined to parenthood.

Dr. Newsholme has here added little or nothing to scientific knowledge. It would be easy to find in the literature of population more adequate discussions of practically every topic he has touched upon. But in what he has attempted he has achieved a large measure of success. His book is written for the uninitiated, not for the expert; and to the uninitiated it may be recommended as a sane and useful primer of a subject which ought to be better understood.

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Die Zukunft der Juden. By WERNER SOMBART. (Leipzig: Duncker und Humblot. 1912. Pp. 90. 2.50 m.)

The author's researches¹ in the history of the Jews have attracted so much attention that he has felt the need of expressing his views on their future. Sombart believes that the extreme poverty of the Eastern Jews may be alleviated by colonization in and near Palestine, when the growing anti-semitic sentiment in the United States assumes the form of restrictive legislation. For Western Jews he does not favor or believe in the possibility of assimilation, which would deprive the world of one of its most

¹ *Die Juden und das Wirtschaftsleben*, reviewed in AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW, March, 1912, p. 81.